



# St Oswald's Curriculum Overview

## Overview of Religious Education

At St Oswald's we aim to Promote a learning community based on the Gospel values of Love, trust and respect. Where the achievements of everyone are recognised and celebrated. Living, Learning and Loving together with Christ.

Religious Education is central to the educative mission of the Church.

*'At the heart of Catholic education lies the Christian vision of the human person. This vision is expressed and explored in RE.'*

Religious Education is 'the core of the core curriculum.'

*'Therefore Religious Education is never simply one subject among many, but the foundation of the entire educational process. The beliefs and values studied in Catholic religious education inspire and draw together every aspect of the life of a Catholic school..... All pupils have the right to receive an overall education which will enable them, in the light of the faith of the Church, to engage with the deepest questions of life and find reasons for the hope which is within them. Religious Education is, then, the core subject in a Catholic school.'*

Religious Education is the systematic study of the teaching of the Church and the mystery of Christ and is a rigorous academic subject in its own right.

*Religious Education is regarded as an academic discipline with the same systematic demands and the same rigour as other disciplines. As such it is to be taught, developed and resourced with the same commitment as any other subject.*

## Intention

At St Oswald's it is our intention:

*To present engagingly a comprehensive content which is the basis of knowledge and understanding of the Catholic faith;*

*To enable pupils continually to deepen their religious and theological understanding and be able to communicate this effectively;*

*To present an authentic vision of the Church's moral and social teaching so that pupils can make a critique of the underlying trends in contemporary culture and society;*

*To raise pupils' awareness of the faith and traditions of other religious communities in order to respect and understand them;*

*To develop the critical faculties of pupils so that they can relate their Catholic faith to daily life;*

*To stimulate pupils' imagination and provoke a desire for personal meaning as revealed in the truth of the Catholic faith;*

*To enable pupils to relate the knowledge gained through Religious Education to their understanding of other subjects in the curriculum;*



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## *Implementation*

At St Oswald's we will implement the Come and See Curriculum in order to fulfil and address the four areas of study outlined in the Religious Education Curriculum Directory, 2012 – Revelation, Church, Celebration and Life in Christ - the 'Come and See' programme is used as recommended by the Diocese.

The curriculum hours in Religious Education are non-negotiable and will be followed by all staff in the school. Fixed timetables will be set before the academic year and monitored by subject leads and Senior Leadership. Whilst RE is taught as a discrete subject it plays a central role in **all** areas of school life.

Approaches will include whole class teaching, group activities and individual work. Children will have opportunities to work individually as well as cooperatively and collaboratively, developing their own knowledge and expertise as well as sharing experiences with others.

High quality input from experts and educational resources complement the delivery of specialist learning admirably. The idea of vocation will be developed in all year groups.

Pupils will participate in Mass, feast days, Holy days collective worship which will involve religious actions and worship including the celebration of the sacraments.

Religious Education is taught through the process of *Explore, Reveal, Respond*. This follows the pattern of: the human search for meaning, God's initiative in Revelation and the response in faith. This pattern is outlined both in the Catechism of the Catholic Church and in the Curriculum Directory.

As the Directory states:

*'Teaching in Religious Education ....should help people be attentive to the meaning of their experiences, illumined by the light of the Gospel, so that they may respond to God more fully. Experience can also make the Christian message more intelligible.'*

## *Impact*

At St Oswald's we strive to ensure that our pupil's attainment is in line or exceeds their potential and the ADDR.

- The outcome of Classroom Religious Education is:  
*"religiously literate and engaged young people who have the knowledge, understanding and skills – appropriate to their age and capacity – to reflect spiritually, and think ethically and theologically, and who are aware of the demands of religious commitment in everyday life".*
- Whilst evangelisation and catechesis are happening in our school for some pupils, the specific contribution Religious Education makes to the Catholic Life of the school is primarily educational and will be planned, taught, assessed and monitored with the same rigour as other curriculum subjects.



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*Assessment will be ongoing to inform teachers with their planning, lesson activities and differentiation. Summative assessment is completed by all class teachers to inform leaders of individuals' progress or skills that still need embedding further.*

Continued work and collaboration with our cluster schools.